Equality and Human Rights Commission

Contents

Minutes of a Special meeting of the Board of the EHRC.....2
Attending.....2
1. Chairwoman's welcome and apologies.....3
2. Code of Conduct.....3
3. Governance Manual.....3
4. Final Resolution.....4

Minutes of a Special meeting of the Board of the EHRC

Tuesday 10 September 2024
Online

Attending

Commissioners

Kishwer Falkner (Chairwoman), Lesley Sawers (Interim Deputy Chair), Jess Butcher, Joanne Cash (Chair of P&WC), David Goodhart, Kunle Olulode (Chair of ARAC), Akua Reindorf, John Kirkpatrick (Chief Executive)

Officers

Bill Malloy – Director of Finance, Planning and Governance
Amanda Topham – Head of Corporate Law, Information and Governance, Commission Secretary
Cihan Altan – Chief of Staff

1. Chairwoman's welcome and apologies

1.1 The Chairwoman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Martyn Jones and from Alasdair Henderson and Su-Mei Thompson who had both contributed in writing. No conflicts of interest were raised.

1.2 The Chairwoman noted that the purpose of this Special Meeting was to review the changes to Governance Manual and the Code of Conduct for Commissioners and Committee Members proposed by the external governance review. She noted that since that review the changes had been reviewed by the Chairwoman, Interim Deputy Chair and the Chairs of ARAC and P&WC and subsequently by the Executive.

1.3 Due to the changes to the Code of Conduct relating directly to the outcomes of the recent investigation and to avoid any perception of conflict, the Chairwoman invited the Interim Deputy Chair to lead on agreement of changes to the draft Code of Conduct.

2. Code of Conduct

2.1 The Interim Deputy Chair performed a page turn of the draft Code of Conduct and invited discussion and comments from the Commissioners.

2.2 The following matters were identified as requiring further discussion:

a) paragraph 3.4 (resignation by disagreement);

b) paragraph 4.7 (third party paid expenses);

c) Annex A, paragraph 2.6 Complaints policy (disclosure of details to subject of complaint).

3. Governance Manual

3.1 The Chairwoman performed a page turn of the draft Governance Manual and invited discussion and comments from the Commissioners.

3.2 All matters were resolved.

4. Final Resolution

4.1 The Board appointed the Interim Deputy Chair, the Chairs of ARAC and P&WC and the Chairwoman to resolve the three remaining points on the Code of Conduct and have a final review of both documents.

4.2 The resolved matters are to be circulated to Commissioners by correspondence to allow for any remaining comments and final drafts to be confirmed at the Board meeting following circulation.

4.3 There being no further business, the Chairwoman closed the meeting.